

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 14.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

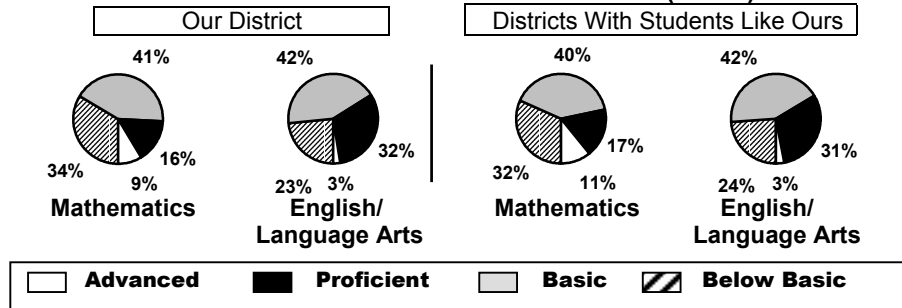
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- **Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- **Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- **Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

| Student Group | Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam | Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships | Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT | |
|--|--|---|--|-------|
| | | | ELA | Math |
| All Students | 92.6% | 19.5% | 76.8% | 66.3% |
| Students with disabilities other than Speech | 71.2% | 2.5% | 41.4% | 33% |
| Students without disabilities | 94.7% | 20.9% | 84.2% | 73.1% |
| Gender | | | | |
| Male | 91.3% | 16.0% | 71.9% | 65.4% |
| Female | 93.4% | 22.8% | 82.6% | 67.2% |
| Ethnic Group | | | | |
| African-American | 84.8% | 4.6% | 61.6% | 45.5% |
| Hispanic | 100.0% | 10.0% | 68.8% | 49.3% |
| White | 93.3% | 21.9% | 79.7% | 70.2% |
| Other | 87.5% | 16.7% | N/A | N/A |
| Lunch Status | | | | |
| Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch | 86.9% | 5.0% | 68.2% | 55.7% |
| Pay for Lunch | 93.5% | 22.1% | 84.3% | 75% |

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

| | First-time Examinees | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
| Our district | | | |
| Passed all 3 subtests | 73.8% | 82.1% | 81.6% |
| Passed 2 subtests | 14.8% | 11.0% | 12.0% |
| Passed 1 subtest | 8.1% | 5.8% | 5.2% |
| Passed no subtest | 3.3% | 1.2% | 1.2% |
| Districts with students like ours | | | |
| Passed all 3 subtests | 67.4% | 72.2% | 72.2% |
| Passed 2 subtests | 17.0% | 15.0% | 16.0% |
| Passed 1 subtest | 9.9% | 8.3% | 7.7% |
| Passed no subtest | 5.7% | 4.4% | 4.1% |

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

| | Eligible | Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement | Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement |
|---------------------|----------|--|-----------------------------|
| Our District | 19.5% | 50.9% | 20.2% |
| Districts Like Ours | 21.2% | 53.8% | 22.4% |

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

| | SAT Verbal | | SAT Math | | SAT Total | | ACT English | | ACT Math | | ACT Reading | | ACT Science | | ACT Total | |
|----------|------------|------|----------|------|-----------|------|-------------|------|----------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-----------|------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 |
| District | 514 | 503 | 515 | 499 | 1029 | 1002 | 19.5 | 19.4 | 19.9 | 19.1 | 20.1 | 19.9 | 20.2 | 19.9 | 20.0 | 19.7 |
| State | 484 | 486 | 482 | 488 | 966 | 974 | 18.7 | 18.8 | 19.2 | 19.3 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.2 | 19.2 | 19.3 | 19.3 |
| Nation | 505 | 506 | 514 | 514 | 1019 | 1020 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.7 | 20.7 | 21.4 | 21.3 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 |

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

| | Reading | | Language | | Math | | Total | |
|----------|---------|--------|----------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation |
| Grade 4 | 47.8 | 50.0 | 43.1 | 50.0 | 58.4 | 50.0 | 50.5 | 50.0 |
| Grade 7 | 45.8 | 50.0 | 59.4 | 50.0 | 54.7 | 50.0 | 53.9 | 50.0 |
| Grade 10 | 59.6 | 50.0 | 59.5 | 50.0 | 62.4 | 50.0 | 59.1 | 50.0 |

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

| | | | Percents of Students | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|------|----------------------|--------|------------|--------|-------|--------|-------------|--------|
| Test | Grade | Year | Advanced | | Proficient | | Basic | | Below Basic | |
| | | | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation |
| Reading | 4 | 1998 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 23 | 33 | 32 | 45 | 39 |
| Writing | 8 | 1998 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 23 | 64 | 59 | 21 | 17 |
| Mathematics | 4 | 2000 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 23 | 42 | 43 | 40 | 31 |

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

| | This District | Change from Last Year | Districts With Students Like Ours | Median District |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| DISTRICT | | | | |
| • Dollars per student | \$7,213 | N/A | \$6,217 | \$6,464 |
| • Prime instructional time | 90.7% | Up from 88.5% | 90.2% | 89.4% |
| • Student-teacher ratio | 21.3 to 1 | N/A | 21.2 to 1 | 20.2 to 1 |
| • Vacancies for more than nine weeks | 0.6% | N/A | 0.3% | 0.6% |
| STUDENTS (n=9,945) | | | | |
| • Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio | 46.1% | N/A | 48.9% | 43.8% |
| • Attendance Rate | 96.7% | Down from 97% | 96% | 95.7% |
| • Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level | 4.7% | N/A | 5.4% | 5.8% |
| • Taking PACT (Math) off grade level | 5.3% | N/A | 4.1% | 4.5% |
| • Retention rate | 5.9% | Up from 5.8% | 5.1% | 6.0% |
| TEACHERS (n=772) | | | | |
| • Professional development days per teacher | 7.1 Days | Down from 7.7 | 7.6 Days | 7.8 Days |
| • Attendance rate | 95.5% | Up from 93% | 95.4% | 95.2% |
| • Advanced Degrees | 49.9% | Up from 48.9% | 50.4% | 44.4% |
| • Continuing contracts | 85.8% | Up from 83.3% | 85.6% | 81.4% |
| • Out-of-field permits | 0.9% | Up from 0.4% | 1.8% | 2.2% |
| • Teachers returning from the previous year | 91% | Down from 92.1% | 91.1% | 89.5% |
| • Average salary | \$39,131 | Up 6.0% | \$38,739 | \$37,143 |

DISTRICT FACTS

| | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| DISTRICT | | | | |
| • Annual dropout rate | 2.8% | Up from 2.3% | 3% | 2.9% |
| • Percentage spent on teacher salaries | 51.2% | N/A | 53.7% | 50.9% |
| • Superintendent's years in the district | 7 | N/A | 7 | 3.5 |
| • Parent conferences | 85.8% | N/A | 86% | 81.0% |
| • Opportunities in the arts | Fair | N/A | Excellent | Excellent |
| • Number of schools | 21 | No change | 9 | 8 |
| • Number of alternative schools | 0 | No change | 0 | 0 |
| • Number of charter schools | 0 | No change | 0 | 0 |
| • Number of magnet schools | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 |
| • Portable classrooms | 2.3% | N/A | 3.3% | 6.5% |
| • Attendance rate of district office staff | 97.6% | Down from 99.2% | 97.9% | 97.5% |
| • Average administrative salary | \$64,371 | Up 4.5% | \$66,498 | \$64,098 |
| STUDENTS | | | | |
| • Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| • Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| • Suspensions and expulsions | 185 | N/A | 79 | 100 |
| • Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs | 11% | Up from 10.1% | 14.1% | 10.5% |
| • Percentage with disabilities other than speech | 14.8% | Up from 13.7% | 11.3% | 10.5% |

Oconee School District
101 E. North Broad St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

Grades K-12

Enrollment: 9,945 Students

Superintendent Buddy Garrett Herring 864-638-4000

Board Chair Harry B. Mays, Jr. 864-972-2136

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Annual District Report Card | 2001 |
|-----------------------------|------|

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The School District of Oconee County is the 19th largest of the 86 districts in South Carolina. The district has eleven elementary schools, five middle schools, four high schools, one career center and one alternative school that serve a reasonably stable population of ten thousand (10,000) students. Oconee County is a rural district and covers approximately 670 square miles. The schools in Oconee are smaller in size than the average size schools in the state, which allows for a closer personal touch while providing a quality education for all students.

The top priority for the Oconee County School Board and Administration is to be a top five district in the state. This has been a major goal for the past several years. As you examine your report you will notice that new test data has been included for your information. I am pleased to report to you that the average SAT score for our district for the year 2000 is 1029. This is 10 points above the national average of 1019. Our goal is to maintain this status and continue to score above the national average. Also, our PACT scores will indicate that we are now in the top twenty-five percent (25%) for the state of South Carolina. Our goals for the PACT are to be in the top ten percent (10%) in the state of South Carolina and finally in the top five percent (5%). Working together and focusing on the appropriate issues will assist us in reaching this goal.

Recently the Board employed H. Dale Holden and Associates to complete an audit of educational effectiveness and an examination of our current instructional programs. The purpose of this audit was to assist in determining our strengths and weaknesses as they relate to our overall educational programs. It also assisted in addressing the cost effectiveness of many of the programs now in place. Additionally our district office instructional staff has met with principals and/or curriculum coordinators for each school to develop individual school plans based on findings from the audit and from PACT information. These plans are to be used as improvement plans for each of these schools.

It is of utmost importance that school personnel, parents, students and entire communities plan and work together to achieve the goals initially set by the Board and Administration.

In this time of accountability and close scrutiny by all stakeholders, it is imperative that we work together in this endeavor.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

www.myschools.com